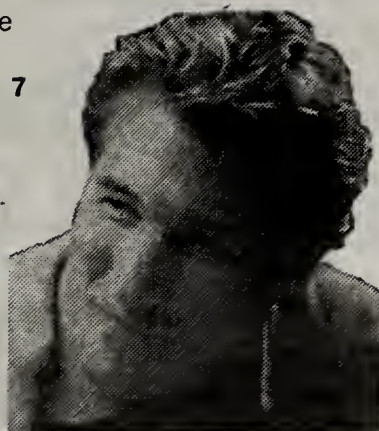




Read the Chronicle's
view on attendance
policies affecting grades.
Opinion, Page 4

Homecoming is coming
up, and brand new
activities await this year.
Sports, Page 8

New conspiracy movie
starring Richard Gere
misses the mark.
Entertainment, Page 7



Volume 20 Issue 21

Monday, February 4, 2002

Animator of "Shrek" visits PUC

SARAH LISON
Assistant News Editor

Scott Singer, senior effects animator for the movies "Shrek" and "Antz" discussed the creation of effects in the movie "Shrek" and showed recruiting demo reels Jan. 30 at The Center.

Singer has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and art history from the University of Colorado and a Master of Fine Arts in painting and critical theory from Northwestern University. He has worked for PDI/DreamWorks for five years. Prior to working at PDI/DreamWorks, Singer was employed by the Center for Visual Computing at the University of California Riverside, which was his first designing job. Singer said he became interested in graphic design at the end of his undergraduate career in 1988, however, at that time, educational institutions did not offer programs in graphics technology, and software was extremely expensive.

Singer said that at first he was mainly fascinated with the idea of typing codes into a text editor and creating pictures.

In his first presentation, Singer discussed the creation of the "mud poop" effect in the movie "Shrek" in detail. In this particular scene, the character Shrek emerges from a log following three brown shapeless pieces of what Singer describes as "mud poop."

Singer then informed students of techniques he and his team of designers used to produce the clothing of various characters, the design of a burning bridge and fluttering medieval banners in "Shrek."

Singer then opened the floor to student questions. Several students asked about the budget and cost of the movie. Singer said actual figures are hard to determine. One student inquired about how one interested in working for PDI/DreamWorks should showcase his or her knowledge of design, considering the proprietary nature of PDI/DreamWorks software. Singer said one would have to demonstrate the ability to program a character. A student asked how much work was put into making the movie "Shrek". Singer replied that he works an average of 50 hours a week and as

much as 90 hours a week during crunch time.

Following student questions, Singer showed several recruiting demo reels. People who are presently employed in various departments such as lighting, effects and animation at PDI/DreamWorks created the demo reels.

"It does happen. You can get hired right out of college," Singer said to the audience.

Singer discussed the style of the demo reels in relation to the department the designers are currently employed in, and he said that one should always explain how he or she created an effect in the credits.

"The demo reels give our students an idea of what kind of competition there is," said David Meles, computer aided design coordinator for the department of manufacturing engineering technologies and supervision.

To students interested in pursuing a career in graphic design, Singer said, "The only reason to go into it is if you love the work because there's a lot of work, and if you don't love it, you'll be miserable for 50 hours a week or more."

Students from both PUC and Purdue West Lafayette attended the event, which was sponsored by PUC's computer graphic technology program.

Elizabeth Owles, a junior majoring in computer graphic technology, said, "For people who are CGT majors, it was definitely something that they should have been here for."

Prior to introducing Singer, Jana Whittington, visiting assistant professor of CGT, said that the CGT program is one of the most rapidly growing departments at PUC. Whittington said that PUC will offer an associate's degree in computer graphic technology for the fifth semester next fall, and a bachelor's degree has been proposed. Studies for the bachelor's degree would include an introduc-

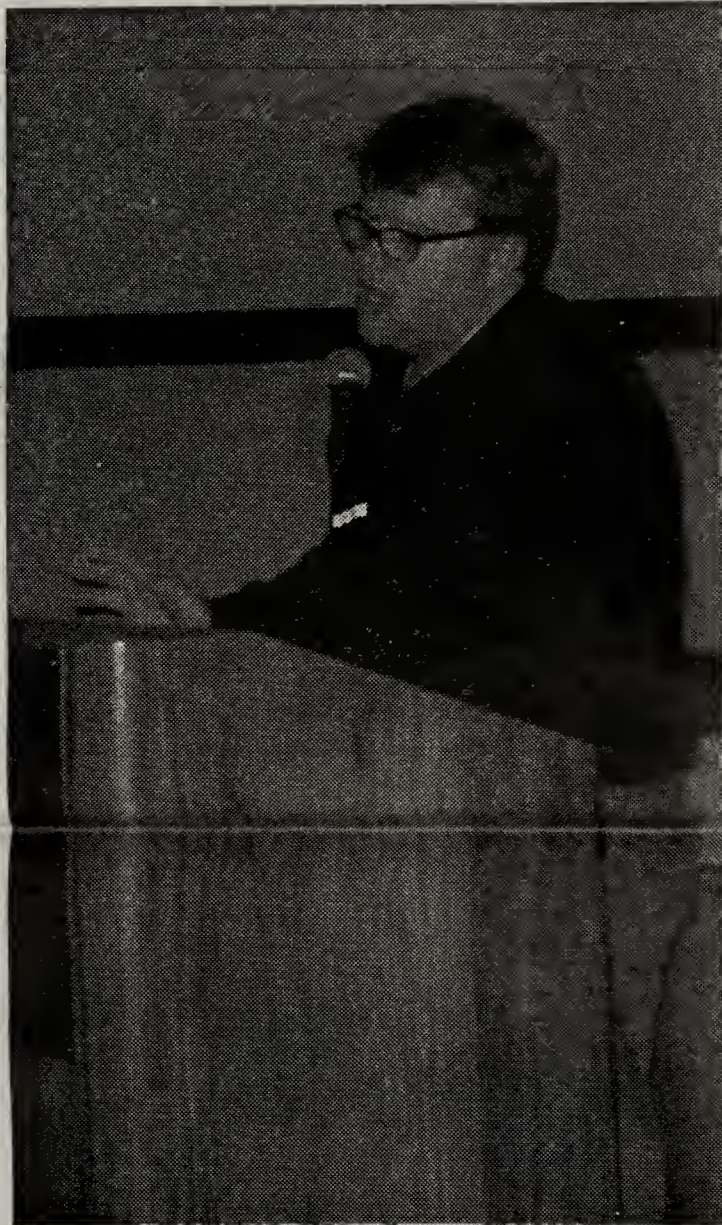


Photo by Skye Holman

Scott Singer speaks to students at the Center on Jan. 30. Singer was the senior effects animator for the movie "Shrek."

tion to web design, animation and print media design. Whittington said that this summer, PUC will offer a multimedia flash animation class.

Credits earned toward the associate's degree at PUC are 100 percent transferable to the manufac-

turing technology computer graphics program at Purdue West Lafayette, where there are four tracks, Whittington said. The areas of study students can choose from at Purdue West Lafayette include multi-media, animation, construction and manufacturing.

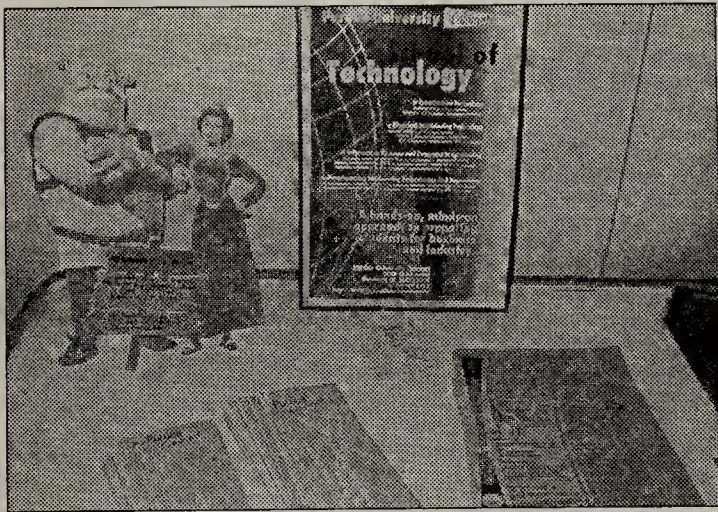


Photo by Skye Holman

Brochures line a table at Scott Singer's presentation. Singer has worked for PDI/Dreamworks for five years.

Emergency procedures inform, aid students

CHRISTOPHER JONES
News Writer

Emergency procedures have been given added attention since last October's tornado warning affected the routine of the PUC campus.

After some confusion on the part of both the faculty and student body in dealing with such an emergency, new steps have been added to compliment the university's existing emergency procedure. PUC police and building deputies are posting storm safe signs on the walls of secure rooms in campus buildings in order to avoid any future confusion.

In cases of severe weather, building deputies work in conjunc-

tion with both the PUC and the Hammond police departments to monitor the conditions via the weather radio and website. Mike Kull, PUC executive director of emergencies, works with the PUC police and meets with the chancellor for decisions on how the university will deal with any given emergency. Building deputies, who work under Kull, and the PUC police are assigned weather radios that allow them to keep abreast of changes in the weather, while staying in contact with PUC police for instructions. Building deputies are supplied with first aid kits and lanterns, in case of power outage, and are in charge of notifying students of weather conditions as well as evacuating students, if neces-

sary. It is the responsibility of the students to act in accordance with building deputies and the campus police.

"We can only warn people... we can't physically force people to protect themselves," PUC police chief Stephen Chaddock said, addressing the issue of students not listening to the instructions of building deputies during the October 31 tornado warning.

Chaddock said that PUC has refined procedure in hopes of addressing issues that arose during the tornado warning in late October.

"We've had a meeting with all of the building deputies to identify some of the strengths and then some of the areas where we didn't

do as well as we had hoped," Chaddock said, referring to meetings held after the October tornado warning and classroom evacuations.

A major part of upgrading PUC emergency procedure includes the design of a program that will alert students who are working in campus computer labs of campus emergencies via a scrolling message or a message alert. PUC police is working with the university computer department in designing the program.

The university currently notifies students to evacuate classrooms and the campus through a campus wide communication system that includes speakers in all buildings. The communication

system is tested at least three times a year, usually before the start of a new semester. The PUC police hope to upgrade the campus wide communication system by adding more speakers in lacking areas in order to better evacuate students from their classrooms and from the campus in cases of emergency.

The university presently notifies the news media and the students of weather conditions, such as snow or fog, that will shut down the campus through the office of Wes Lukoshus, director of university relations. Postings, such as campus closings due to weather, can be found via the radio at WJOB AM1230 or at the campus website.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

TIMELY ADVICE...

March 1st is an important date!

March 1 is the priority deadline for filing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), the universal financial aid form required by most colleges and universities—including Purdue Calumet—to support decisions for awarding state, campus-based and institutional aid, plus need-based scholarships.

To help familiarize students and their families with the financial aid application process, as well as help them fill out the FAFSA, College Goal Sunday programs are being held around the state, Feb. 10. Purdue Calumet is hosting two such programs.

Financial Aid specialists will be available at College Goal Sunday programs to assist you/answer your questions in regard to completing the FAFSA at the following Purdue Calumet sites:

- ◆ 2 p.m. Purdue Calumet, GYTE 103
- ◆ 2 p.m. Hellenic Cultural Center, 8000 Madison St., Merrillville



The quest to obtain financial assistance requires an investment of time and effort on your part—but the return on your investment can be substantial!

There are forms to fill out—most notably the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

There are deadlines to meet—most importantly, March 1, for submitting a completed FAFSA. It's the FAFSA that is used to determine the amount of need-based federal, state and institutional assistance for which you qualify for the 2002-03 academic year.

There also are scholarship searches on which to embark. Scholarships may be based on academic strength (merit) alone or a combination of need and merit. Scholarship donors identify the criteria to be met by would-be recipients. March 1 is also the deadline to submit Purdue Calumet's Merit Awards Application.

In short, the process of attaining financial assistance requires your active involvement and commitment. Many of you can attest to the fact that the process is worth the effort.

55 percent of our students receive \$19 million in financial assistance

About 55 percent of Purdue Calumet students receive some \$19 million annually in financial assistance—based on need and/or merit.

But unless current students, prospective students and their families follow through appropriately on the financial aid application process, they likely will miss out on valuable funding for their education.

To provide guidance and assistance to families in their pursuit of financial assistance, February has been designated Financial Aid Awareness Month. The cornerstone event of Financial Aid Awareness Month is College Goal Sunday; a statewide initiative scheduled Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. Purdue Calumet is hosting two College Goal Sunday sites—one on campus in GYTE 103, the other at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Merrillville, where many of our south Lake County classes are held.

Throughout February, this Administration Update space will be devoted to providing helpful financial aid information for students in their efforts to pursue financial assistance for next academic year.

Click onto the Office of Financial Aid home page

In the meantime, we suggest that you click onto the Office of Financial Aid home page from the Purdue Calumet Web site: www.calumet.purdue.edu

There, you will find comprehensive financial aid information. You also can access scholarship listings and searches; application information; answers to frequently asked financial aid-related questions, and more!

Further information about financial aid and related services also can be obtained by:

- ◆ visiting the Office of Financial Aid, located in the Enrollment Services Center, LAWSHE 130,
- ◆ e-mailing the Office at: finaid@calumet.purdue.edu or
- ◆ calling 219/989-2301 or 800/HI-PURDUE, ext. 2301 (just use ext. 2301 from campus phones).

What's goin' on?

A look around campus

Free career and personal counseling available

Free career and personal counseling is available through the Practicum Counseling Center. Appointments are available for Wednesday evenings. For more information, contact Jane Stangel at 989-2366.

Student Programming Board seeks assistance

Students interested in planning campus events should contact SPB chairman Nick Orange at NickOrange@hotmail.com.

Writers wanted

If you need a portfolio-builder or would like to see your name in the paper, call The Chronicle. The Chronicle is seeking new writers to cover campus news, entertainment and sports for the spring semester. Writing experience is a bonus, but not required. We will train. Pay is per story. For more information, contact Lorrell at 989-2547.

Harlem Renaissance Plays to be performed

Directed by J. Allen Johnson, all three productions; Plumes, Safe and Blue-Eyed Black Boy, will be performed Feb. 16 at 6:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall of the SFLC building. Following the performance will be an audience talk back led by Sarah Howard, assistant dean of students. The shows are free to the public and all are welcome to attend and encouraged to bring a friend!

Participate in a blood drive

You are the key to a successful blood drive by Heartland Blood Centers on Wednesday, Feb. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the third floor of the SFLC building in Alumni Hall. Appointments are preferred. To make an appointment, call 989-2550. Walk-ins will be welcome.

Gamer's Guild seeks players

The PUC Gamer's Guild is an organization for students interested in tabletop role-playing games such as Dungeons & Dragons, Shadowrun and Vampire: The Masquerade. Games run once a week per individual game, several games per week. Monday and Tuesday games are played

currently, and new games are forming. To join or for more information, e-mail President will at Lordwill@angelfire.com.

The Grapevine offers live reggae, poetry slam, open mic

The Grapevine, 500 Lake St., Miller Beach hosts a poetry slam and open mic night Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m. and a live reggae night Thursdays at 8 p.m. For more information, call (219) 939-WINE.

Financial Aid 'College Goal Sunday' programs are Feb. 10

To better familiarize families with the higher education financial aid process, as well as help them complete the federal financial aid application, PUC is hosting College Goal Sunday a 2 p.m., Feb. 10 at two locations: Room 103 of the GYTE building and the Gold Room of the Hellenic Cultural Center, 8000 Madison Ave., Merrillville.

The IIE student chapter 822 sponsors a seminar

The Institute of Industrial Engineers student chapter 822 is sponsoring a seminar Wednesday, Feb. 6, on Cellurization and Quick Response Manufacturing. This seminar will benefit the chapter and will be held at The Center. Student admission is free. The guest speaker is Dr. Charlene Yauch, an assistant professor at Oklahoma State University. She also holds her Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, and her B.S.I.E. from Purdue University.

For additional information go to the IIE chapter web site, <http://axp.calumet.purdue.edu/~iie/events.html>, under events for Feb. 6, 2002. Forms for attending the event may be downloaded from this web site or obtained from Professor Scachitti in the Anderson building, room 232. Direct any questions to iie@axp.calumet.purdue.edu

SHRM sets meeting dates

Society of Human Resource Management has set dates for bi-monthly meetings to be held in the Anderson building, room 311. All meetings will begin at 5:15 p.m. Dates for the meetings are scheduled for Feb. 5, Feb. 19, March 5, March 19, April 2, April 16 and April 30. The meeting on Feb. 5 will include free pizza.

Say what?

"Imagination is the voice of daring. If there is anything Godlike about God, it is that. He dared to imagine everything."

—Henry Miller
1891-1980

The Chronicle

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HS students brainstorm

A "think tank" of local high school students will brainstorm on subjects of economic development in northwest Indiana and political and philosophical issues regarding terrorism at the Future Space Brainstorm Conference 2002 at Purdue University Calumet, Tuesday (2/5).

More than 50 students, either recommended by their school principals or who are National Merit Scholarship semi finalists, are expected to participate in this first-time conference.

High schools to be represented include: Andrean, Chesterton, Crown Point, Gary Emerson School for the Visual and Performing Arts, Griffith, Hammond Clark, Hammond Gavit, Hammond High, Hammond Morton, Highland, Hobart, Lowell, Merrillville, Munster, Portage, Seton Academy and Valparaiso.

"We are hosting students who have demonstrated a high level of achievement and clearly have the skills necessary to address problems facing our region, our

nation and our world," said Purdue Calumet Chancellor Howard Cohen, who will address the students with Hammond Mayor Duane W. Dedelow, Jr. "I believe that a bright future for all of us lies in the imaginations and actions of young people like these."

The students will discuss such issues as: the history of the economic base in the region, current and future economic development of northwest Indiana, what role the U.S. should play in global politics, President Bush's Sept. 20 address to a joint session of Congress and courses of action in the war on terrorism.

Purdue Calumet faculty members who will moderate the conference sessions are:

Susan Scachitti, assistant professor of industrial engineering technology, who teaches courses in such areas as total quality management, work measurement, facility layout, ergonomics and engineering economics and has consulted

with numerous manufacturing companies.

Kathleen Tobin, visiting assistant professor of Spanish, who has taught such history classes as U.S., the world, Latin American and women, and has studied local and global economic issues including how population is related to economics.

Richard Rupp, visiting assistant professor of political science, who teaches the course, "Politics of Terror," and has taught and studied in the areas of international relations, American foreign policy, Russian and East European politics, and politics of the Middle East; and Samuel Zinaich, Jr., assistant professor of philosophy, who specializes in ancient Greek, modern and contemporary ethics and the ethical views of John Locke (1632-1704) and co-authored articles about Locke's moral views and about abortion.

Additionally, Cohen and Hammond Mayor Duane W. Dedelow, Jr. will address the students.

Teleconferencing available as alternative to traveling to long distance meetings

The Center at Purdue University Calumet offers teleconferencing capabilities for meetings, programs and conferences.

"Our teleconferencing is a great alternative to traveling long distances for meetings," Peggy Kienzle, Purdue Calumet director of conference operations and special events, said. "Our system is ideal for small groups."

The Center offers a VTEL Galaxy videoconferencing system. The roll-about cabinet system features power document creation, annotation and collaboration tools. With an integrated PC base, a file or application can be shared with the touch of a button. Satellite downloads (C-band) are also available.

The videoconferencing system can be used in any of the meeting rooms at The Center at Purdue University Calumet. Rooms

available for use include two conference rooms that seat 12, one of which has a view of the woodland area surrounding The Center, Two breakout rooms for groups of 18-20 in which seating may be arranged in a U-shape or classroom style, Two tiered classrooms that each seat 46 people and feature data ports at each workstation for laptop computer use and internet access; and a meeting/banquet room that provides theater-style seating for 400 or banquet-style seating for 250 at round tables. The meeting/ banquet room also can be divided into as many as four separate rooms each accommodating up to 100 in a variety of seating arrangements.

All rooms are equipped with overhead projectors, LCD projectors, screens, VCRs and monitors, sound systems and dry-erase boards.

The Center at Purdue

Calumet is located south of Purdue Calumet's Physical Education Recreation Building. It is accessible south off 173rd Street, one-third mile north of Interstate 80/94 and three blocks east of Indianapolis Boulevard (U.S. 41).

Additional information can be obtained by contacting The Center at Purdue University Calumet at 219-989-3136. The toll free number throughout northern Indiana and the nearby Illinois Chicagoland area is 800/HI-PURDUE, ext. 3136.

The Center's email address is: center@calumet.purdue.edu. The Center's website is: http://www.calumet.purdue.edu/public/thecenter.

The PUC Police Report



Tuesday, January 22, 12:15 p.m.

While attempting to turn around in the circle drive in the P-9 parking lot, a driver in a tractor-trailer scraped the underside of the canopy with the trailer.

Wednesday, January 23, 10:30 a.m.

A victim in the SFLC building placed a book in a desk drawer. Upon return, the book was missing.

Wednesday, January 23, 10:50 a.m.

A vehicle was struck on the driver's side rear quarter panel causing minor damage. The driver of the other vehicle is unknown.

Wednesday, January 23, 12:05 p.m.

A victim left a book bag in the drop-area inside the doors of the bookstore. Upon return, the book bag was missing.

Friday, January 25, 2:18 a.m.

A victim sustained a cut on the left shin after walking into a walking floor scrubber. The victim was treated at the scene.

Friday, January 25, 5:11 p.m.

A victim was changing light bulbs when one broke causing debris to fall in the victim's eyes. The victim was treated at the scene and was later transported by a co-worker to the Hammond Clinic.

Classified

Servers Wanted! Must be 21 or older! Days/Nights. Flexible schedule. Langel's Pizza. Highland, Indiana. 923-4900.

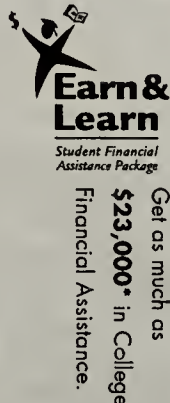
If you have lost something, or found something that belongs to someone else, please contact the University Police Department at: (219) 989-2221

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CALL: 800.230.PLAN

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The Chronicle

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Spring 2002

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Attendance policies confuse students, hinder grades with point losses

Some students at PUC have found the process of adjusting to life as a student relatively painless. Here at PUC, the people are nice, the parking is ample, and the campus itself is (mostly) easy to navigate. So far there is only one thing that drives some people crazy: attendance policies.

The classes that are offered vary in their attendance policies. In one, students are given ten attendance points to begin with, but lose five every time a class is missed. Roll call is taken religiously every day to make sure that all students are present and accounted for, and if someone is more than ten minutes late, then forget it—tardiness counts as an official absence. There are even pop quizzes given every so often to help motivate students to show up.

However, the attendance policy in other classes couldn't be more different. In short, there isn't one class where the policy is—if you show up, fine, but if you don't, that's your problem. Life goes on regardless of whether or not everybody is there, and the professor isn't going to get bogged down with keeping track of who is showing up and who isn't.

These are just two examples of current attendance policies on campus. Since there is no formal attendance policy set by the school, other than that a student is considered withdrawn from a class on their fourth absence, it falls to the professors to set their own rules about attendance. This is where some students tend to have problems.

There are several elements of personal attendance policy that might best be re-thought. For instance, many people are bothered by the subtraction of points from a student for being absent or tardy. Realistically, aren't students punished enough by missing class, and therefore falling behind without losing points for attendance too? Unfortunately, students do cut class, but most people are here because they genuinely want to learn, and only miss if there is absolutely no other alternative. Things happen—cars break down, children get sick—and students really shouldn't have to pay for circumstances beyond their control, particularly if valid proof of an emergency is provided.

On the other hand is the policy of professors giving students points just for showing up in class. Although many students like this policy, one has to stop and wonder if it is really necessary? School is a job just like any other and therefore should be taken seriously. Students really should be responsible enough to show up for class without the motivation of extra points for being there.

The bottom line is that attendance is going to be reflected strongly enough in a student's final grade. If a student does well on class assignments and tests, should they really be penalized because they haven't been in class every day? Conversely, if a student has slacked off on their work but shown up consistently for class, should they really be rewarded for their actions? This is definitely an issue that needs to be clarified for the sake of students and for the peace of mind of their instructors.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Monday before publication.



Be the life of the party until you're too old to dance



SARAH LISON
Assistant News Editor

For all of those students who have stories to share about wild and crazy fun under the influence of drugs or alcohol, take a minute to think about all the times we were not sage enough to catch a ride home.

Of course I love to be the life of the party. One of the greatest releases for me is the freedom I feel speeding down open highways, away from routine life-as-I-know-it; blaring my music. Dancing and driving at the same time has caused me to swerve from the curb to the median. Drinking and driving causes drivers to swerve into curbs, bend wheels and much worse. Somehow, I steered clear of major trouble. So many of us have been lucky, and we have some insane stories to tell that probably include a trip in a car...even when we fail to remember it.

A classmate last semester related how his roommate accidentally drove a car onto a diagonal set of railroad tracks, got stuck and walked home to call the police. A student in my English class woke up and could not remember whether a drunk driver hit her car or if she hit something. Another classmate this semester told me how she and her boyfriend filled three fourths of a two-liter bottle of Coca-Cola with rum and went for a Sunday drive. Some of these stories make me want to tell a few of my own, but the print space is limited.

Take a walk through the PUC parking lots on any given morning and observe side mirrors broken, hanging loose or dismantled. Not every missing mirror results from a drunken escapade. Some people really do combat with the walls of their garages when they back out. Coincidentally, mailboxes along the side of many roads in Lake County are tall enough to reach out and cost a driver an arm and a leg.

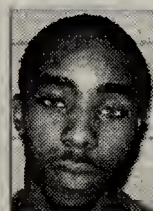
Keep walking and look for busted headlights. I know deer get wild and crazy down in south Lake County too. Maybe they're drinking fifths and jumping into the roadways like some of us jump in our cars.

Every one of us who has climbed out of bed one afternoon and asked ourselves what happened the night before can testify to that pesky feeling of guilt. Being the leading cause of death of people under the age of 30, one of the worst and most preventable decisions you can make is to drive when you're out having fun. It is a lot worse than dropping out of school or disrespecting your parents. When you drive under the influence, you disrespect yourself, everyone else on the road and the people who love us all. And with law enforcement getting tougher, luck is not going to be what keeps friends, family and all of us out of trouble; wise decisions will. Be the person who drives everyone home now and then. Wear your seat belt. After all, you don't have to drink to dance, but you can dance until you're much older than 30. Be sage; watch your friends' backs and keep them safe. I promise you won't feel guilty for it in the morning.

The People Speak

Question of the Week:

What is your most prized possession and why?



Robert Dokes
freshman, communication

"My car, it gets me around to where I got to go. I like to travel and stuff."



Shay Tucker
freshman, elementary education

"My soul because it's very valuable."



Clinique Robinson
junior, communication

"I would be distraught if I lost my football jersey with the number 73 on it. That's my daddy's number and I played a real game in it, I will keep it forever."



Tito Vasquez
freshman, criminal justice

"My jewelry because my parents and my grandparents gave them to me."



Marcella Aleman
freshman, computer information

"My tweety bag because no one has one like it."



Justin Williams
freshman, math and science

"My car. I paid for it with my own money, I take care of it and it's mine."

Exhibit celebrates Black History Month

SARAH LISON
Assistant News Editor

The exhibit "Africa in the Americas," made possible by the Texas Humanities Resource Center in Austin, Texas, will be on display in the library on the second floor of the SFLC building until February 28. The exhibit traces the experiences and culture of African slaves brought to Central and South America as well as the Caribbean against their will.

The exhibit is composed of 20 frames, which include copies of documents, engravings, paintings, photographs and sculptures. Captions are given in both English and Spanish.

"There is a tendency to read it in Spanish if you're a Spanish speaker. It gives variety. That's a good thing. I enjoyed it," Mario Salinas, a junior majoring in psychology said.

Barbara Stoddard, a secretary in the PUC library, made arrangements for "Africa in the Americas" for Black History Month.

"There is a lot of information many of us are not aware of," Stoddard said of the exhibit, "This predates Southern Plantations."

According to the pamphlet "A Third World in the New: African Slaves in Portuguese America," which supplements the exhibit, approximately nine times as many African slaves were transported to Brazil as the English colonies. 80 percent of the Africans who were forcibly imported to the Americas landed in Brazil or the Caribbean, and three out of four African immi-



Photo courtesy of Meril Foundation/Hickey & Robertson, Houston

The picture *Los negros de Esmeraldas*, by Andre Sanchez Gallque (Ecudor, 1599), can be seen in the art exhibit in the library.

grants until the nineteenth century were black.

According to "Africa in the Americas," slaves were used in mining and agriculture and are greatly responsible for the development of the Western hemisphere.

Stoddard said the history of slavery begins in the third to the fifth century B.C. When the first slaves arrived in Haiti and the Dominican Republic between 1502 and 1508, slavery was a

well-established tradition throughout Europe and the Mediterranean. According to "Africa in the Americas" the first slaves were Ladinos, African slaves from Spain who had been Christianized.

The exhibit examines elements of African culture that survived the tortures of slavery such as the dance, the Rumba, unique musical instruments, food and remedies for illnesses such as smallpox. During the Inquisition,

African cults, including Vodun or Voodoo, endured European oppression.

According to the exhibit, it was Spanish custom to free the mixed children of masters and slaves. On the other hand, runaway slaves, or maroons, organized communities in the forest and became skilled in guerilla warfare. Similar communities existed in parts of Florida and Spanish Louisiana.

The offspring of free slaves and other races, such as natives,

were unscientifically named in the eighteenth century custom of classification. For example, the child of a Spaniard and an African was a mulatto, and a lobo was a person of an African and native descent.

Tammy Guerrero, Circulation Reference Librarian, said of the exhibit, "It is unusual and interesting. I think it is a nice aesthetic feature this month, and I hope it brings more people into the library."

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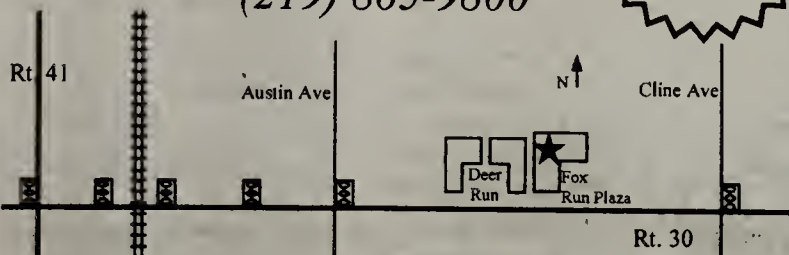
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Come and support your favorite Student Organization

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Kung fu spoof proves lethal to ratings

JOE JUAREZ
Entertainment Editor

When I see a trailer for an upcoming movie, I look for three things: the story line, the actors who will be starring in it, and whether or not it will be a favorite for a long time to come. For example, when "Tomb Raider" starring Angelina Jolie came out last summer, I pretty much knew what the movie would be like. It had its plot, the tremendous fight scenes with the gargoyles that came to life, the time travel scenes that highlighted the whole movie. After some time, the

movie is still talked about.

Enough with "Tomb Raider," and now lets get to the point. In the new movie "Kung Pow: Enter the Fist," four things came to mind while I was watching the movie. Who thought of this movie? What was Steve Oedekerk thinking when the movie was in production? Why did this film come out? How could anybody see this movie? From asking these questions, you tend to wonder what I am about to say in this review for so far the worst movie for 2002.

"Kung Pow" is about "The Chosen One," played by "Nutty

Professor" and "Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls" writer, Steve Oedekerk. From being raised by rodents to learning how to fight as an infant, "The Chosen One's" quest is to find the truth about his parent's murder. In order to find the truth, he must find the culprit who murdered them which is later revealed to be the vile "Master Pain," (Lung Fai) or to his friends at the "Evil Council," "Betty."

Without any help, "The Chosen One's" only companions are his dog and talking tongue to which he called "Toungy." In search for answers, "The Chosen One" finds himself always in attack. Not knowing why he is always attacked, he must fend for himself by using utmost tactics like acting like a squirrel and with the help of a piece of cloth, hooks, two gophers and thus creating "gopher-chucks" to fend off against bad guys. Thinking that there is no one to help him, he is befriended

by the one-breasted heroine, "Whoa" (Jennifer Tong) and is tested by the forces of "Wimp Lo," who is more known for his crying and pouting than his fighting.

"Kung Pow" does have its share of weird characters and unforgettable scenes. For example, there's "Stretchy- The Gay Henchman" (Ron Yuan) and lets not forget, "Bald Asian Gatekeeper" (Won Young Park). Despite its characters, there are scenes such as the now famous one on one fight with a cow, which shows sick lampooning of "The Matrix" with the milk coming out of its utters.

I am not saying anything mean about Steve Oedekerk. He has a lot of ideas on what a comedy should be like. From his work in the screen-writing for "Nutty Professor," "Ace Ventura," to his "Star Wars" parody, "Thumb Wars," he has something that Woody Allen had in the 1960's till now, sure creativity. But purchasing the



"The Chosen One" and "Master Pain" fight to the finish in "Kung Pow: Enter The Fist."



Steve Oedekerk tests his abilities in "Kung Pow: Enter The Fist."

1976 samurai film, "Savage Killers," which is to me a cult classic because of being a good action martial arts film is wrong. I saw no humor with Oedekerk putting himself in a position where he is being tested against a half-ton cow-or using gophers as nun chucks.

It is hard for me to understand why this movie came out. I do not recommend anyone to see it, and frankly I am going to look into getting my money back. I would rather put the \$7.50 toward a root canal.

"Kung Pow"

0 out of 5 stars

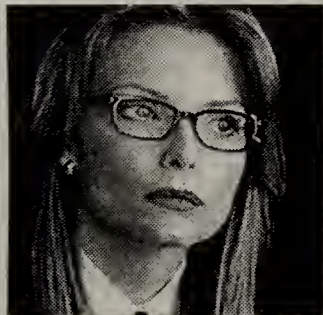
"I Am Sam" speaks words of wisdom

NICOLE ELISCHER
Entertainment Writer

Let me throw out a question. What qualities determine the worth of a parent? Race? Type of career? What if a parent's I.Q. is that of their child? Does society declare that this will be a problem to that child's welfare?

Such a question is explored in "I Am Sam." The film begins at a Los Angeles Starbucks where mentally-challenged Sam Dawson (Sean Penn) works as a busboy, arranging sugar packets and saying "That's wonderful choice" to each and every customer. When told by one of his co-workers that "It's time," Sam rushes off to the hospital, where his girlfriend is having their baby. Once the child is born, she departs leaving him to care for baby Lucy Diamond (named after the Beatles' tune "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds"). He is helped by his friends, all of who are mentally challenged, and a reclusive piano teacher played by Dianne Weist.

Fast forward to seven years later. Lucy (played by newcom-



Michele Pfeiffer co-stars as Rita Harrison in "I Am Sam."

er Dakota Fanning) is an adorable, wise six and a half year old who loves her child-like father that takes her to IHOP every Wednesday and reads "Green Eggs and Ham" over and over. That is until she starts school. After being teased by one of her classmates, she deliberately starts to hold herself back so she won't surpass Sam. Questioning what will happen when the child turns eight, society decides to take Lucy away.

Distraught about how to get Lucy back, Sam turns to lawyer

Rita Harrison (Michelle Pfeiffer) to defend his case. Rita, a fast-talking, overstressed woman with a cheating husband and a son she neglects, turns Sam down at first because of his disability and his limited funds, but soon takes the case pro bono to cover up a lie she made at an office party. Through this relationship, Sam teaches her the meaning of what it is to be a parent.

Penn, known for such disturbing roles in "Dead Man Walking" and "Colors", is surprisingly lovable as Sam. He is hilarious and heartbreaking all at the same time. Even more wonderful is Fanning. Instead of coming off as obnoxious, her performance melts your heart. There are also some wonderful performances by Pfeiffer (who's contrast in behavior with Sam and die-hard attitude in the courtroom scenes shine), Laura Dern (who play Randy, Lucy's loving foster mother) and the four actors that play Sam's friends. Another thing that makes this movie enjoyable is a soundtrack filled with wonderful Beatle covers done by artists



Sean Penn and Dakota Fanning star in "I Am Sam."

such as the Wallflowers and Rufus Wainwright that coincide with the scenes in the movie.

I can't really say this is a movie for everybody. There are some problems with the plot, such as one scene where Sam talks to this woman who turns out to be a prostitute. Other than foreshadowing the next couple of events, I felt that this scene did not fit. I also had a

really hard time trying to figure out what should have been the right solution for Lucy. I don't even think the film made a decision.

But if one chooses to skip "I Am Sam," they will truly miss a sweet tear-jacker of a movie.

"I am Sam"

★★★★

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Moore stars in unforgettable movie

AMY PILARCZYK
Entertainment Writer

In almost every high school, there is one student who is considered a "dork." He or she dresses in their own unique style and marches to the beat of their own drum. They are not like everyone else, thus making them special in their own way.

Jamie Sullivan (Mandy Moore) is one of those students at her high school. In "A Walk to Remember," everyone at Beaufort High would not care less if she was there or not. For example,

when she walks around in her only green sweater, people comment on why she wears it all the time. Jamie holds her ground though, and does not seem to care what the others say about her behind her back.

This changes when fellow classmate Landon Carter (Shane West, star of "Once and Again") gets in trouble for a prank, resulting him into doing janitorial work. But aside from the janitorial work, he has to tutor kids at his sister's school, and to make matters even worse, he is forced into a spring musical, where he meets Jamie.

He begins to see things her way and can not help but go for her charm. This doesn't go well for Landon's friends. There is the goofy and at times annoying Eric (Al Thompson, "Shaft") who provides some of the comic relief. Also, there is still a little love with ex-girlfriend Belinda (Lauren German, from MTV's "Undressed"), whose goal is to embarrass Jamie in front of the whole high school.

Along with the troubles that he is having with his friends, Landon has some trouble trying to convince Jamie's father Reverend Sullivan (Peter Coyote), that he indeed has strong feelings for Jamie. There is also some questioning from



Mandy Moore and Shane West snuggle up together in the movie "A Walk To Remember."

Landon's mother (Darryl Hannah) on whether or not he is making the right decision by going out with her. But in the end their love does conquer all.

Moore's singing trademark is not unusual. In the movie, she sings a wonderful song during the scene for the play in the spring musical that Landon is forced into. Despite needing to learn how to lip sync a little better, you can tell a bit that Moore was trying too hard to get the words to fit right in.

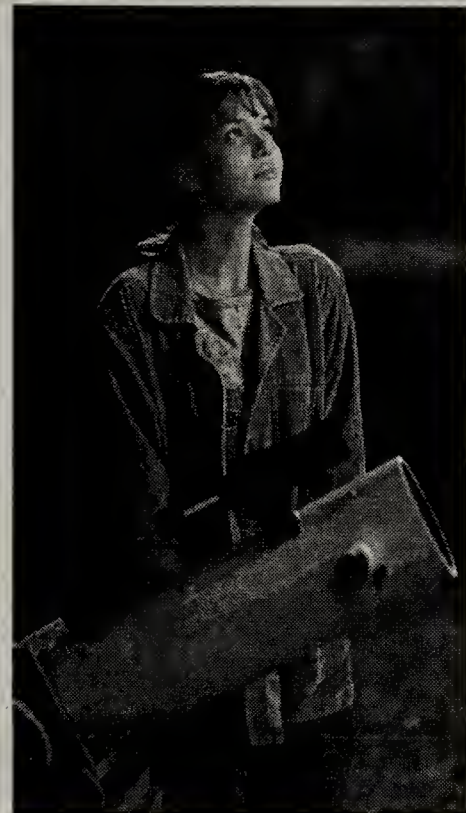
The movie is filled with sweet moments such as Landon trying to win over the likes of Jamie. The cute things that he does will have any girl wishing that Landon was in love with her.

Even though the jump from singing to acting or vice versa usually does not go well, it works for Moore. Moore first showed off her acting skills in "The Princess Diaries." Sure she is not the next Oscar winner, but she can hold her own place.

"A Walk to Remember" will be preferred by girls. After the movie the girls will be wishing more from their boyfriend. The parts where the pair are looking at the stars is great. Watch out for the things that may be expected on Valentine's Day boys!

"A Walk to Remember"

★★★★

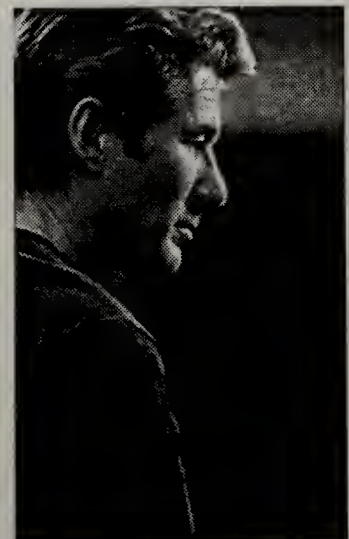


Mandy Moore stars as the shy, high school girl, Jamie.

Mothman just doesn't fly for viewers

TERRENCE ISBELL
Entertainment Writer

OK, I have had it. I have truly had it. This is literally the sixth movie I've seen this season with government conspiracies, ambiguous plot points, and a hero who thinks that he's going crazy. Last but not least, there is an ending that is left wide open leaving the audience way more confused than they were at the beginning. This movie titled "The Mothman Prophecies," is as scary and intriguing, as the creators wanted it to be, like an episode of the "X-Files."



Richard Gere finds the truth in "The Mothman Prophecies"

Based on a book written by a paranormal investigator named John Keel, "The Mothman Prophecies" is based on events he encountered in a small supposedly extraterrestrial town in 1966. People in Point Pleasant, West Virginia reported seeing a being known as the "Mothman," an alien insect with glowing eyes that seemed to appear only to those alone in remote places (how coincidental, right?). The movie does use the book's material, but decides to embellish it a bit, just for suspense.

The movie's plot begins as John (Richard Gere) and his wife (played by Debra Messing of Will and Grace) buy a new home and are ready to settle into family life. After a few moments of total marital bliss, Mary is suddenly killed in a car crash. The odd thing is that it was due to her seeing something in the sky that caused the aforementioned crash (I think we can all guess what she saw).

Two years later, John, still in the grieving phase, just happens to find himself in the city of Point Pleasant. It's never explained how he made it there, or why he was out driving for no apparent reason 400 miles out of his way. If there had been an explanation, the plot would seem a little less confusing and ridiculous to me. Once there, John learns about all the bizarre Mothman sightings of the townspeople and the way that it's described to him shocks him



Richard Gere and Laura Linney star in the new hit suspense movie "The Mothman Prophecies."

because, surprise, surprise, the mothman looks exactly the same as the sketches his wife used to draw in her spare time before her death.

The movie after this point is pretty much what you've seen in the commercials. John meets up with various townsfolk who constantly remind him that this stuff is real and that he's not hallucinating, he has visions of the Mothman itself, which may be real or false. When the movie hit this mark, it became too much like a mediocre "X-Files" episode. Once the "Mothman" begins call-

ing John in a raspy voice talking about Chap Stick, and other thought provoking things, it makes it apparent that director, Mark Pellington (who also directed the much more scarier "Arlington Road,") is trying to freak people out with the unexplained, but like I said before, it just gets more confusing.

In all honesty, the "Mothman Prophecies" wasn't all that big of a thrill for me. I've seen stuff like this in other recent movies, and the question mark ending had already been done repeatedly in

those, so it wasn't even a challenge I felt like pondering afterward. If you seriously want to be enthralled in a mysterious conspiracy, watch reruns of earlier season "X-Files", or just go to an Internet message board. Either one of those would have way more excitement to offer.

"The Mothman Prophecies"

★★ 1/2

THE SPRANKLE CONFINES

Super Bowl XXXVI was one for America



FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

By now Super Bowl XXXVI has come to an end, and on this day only one team in tasting a super victory. Still, some of the true winners could be summoned-up as the American people, who turned to the Fox television network to see the St. Louis Rams and the New England Patriots.

But set aside from the players and stats of both teams, this game was one for the entire country to endure. With the events of September 11, this nation came together and stood united through the time of healing. For almost a full week everyone mourned the thousands that lost their lives in the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, as well as those who were killed on the hijacked airliner that crashed in Pennsylvania. Since then, America has moved on life as it is, just as President Bush encouraged us to, in the week following the tragedy.

In moving forth, sports has its role, in providing enjoyment for those who want to get away from the news on the war on terrorism. And just like major league baseball with the World Series extending into the early days of November, the NFL decided to move the Super Bowl to the first Sunday of February. Even the logo for this year's game was patriotic with the colors of red, white, and blue over stripes and on a map model of the general United States.

Every year, Americans consider Super Sunday to be an unofficial holiday, but from what started out as the AFL-NFL Championship game (or referred to as Super Bowl I) between the Green Bay Packers and Kansas City Chiefs in January 1967 has expanded into the single biggest sporting event known to western civilization.

Aside from the commercials and halftime show, what the Super Bowl comes down to is the championship of the NFL of course, but this year the game could not mean so much more, but no matter who was to be playing, in this case the Rams and Patriots, this game was one for America and for us all.

PUC prepares for Feb. 16 homecoming games

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

No better time for Laker spirit to shine than homecoming. And with this year's event fast approaching, plans have already gotten underway to make it enjoyable for all. As the only two collegiate athletic teams at PUC, the Lakers and Lady Lakers basketball programs have entertained the university for a good number of seasons. One tradition that has held true to homecoming is having both teams take the court in double-header action, which will happen again.

This year's homecoming, slated for Saturday February 16, will continue a number of traditions, with something new added to the mix. Besides the mens and womens games, another contest features the PUC alumni and faculty.

In this game of past students and university professors and campus workers, everyone gathers for an afternoon of fun and socializing. For some of the alumni, coming together at homecoming is a once a year meeting, specifically since most of them return to the PUC campus for just this one event.

"I know the players enjoy seeing each other every year, this

game is a wonderful idea for those who come out and play in the alumni game, and they could stay for both the mens and womens games to follow," Director of PUC Alumni relations Leticia Toma said.

Following the alumni/faculty game, a pizza party will be held for all its participants right before the PUC basketball doubleheader.

In past year's, the alumni/faculty game was held between the games of the Lady Lakers and Lakers. Come homecoming Saturday, the format will change, as the day will begin with alumni and faculty squaring-off at 2 p.m. at the PER Building, followed by the Lady Lakers matching-up against conference opponent St. Francis with a 4:30 p.m. tip-off. Afterward, the day will conclude with the Lakers playing host to IU South Bend at 7 p.m.

"With the series of events going on, SGA (Student Government Association) always has a blast, homecoming is a wonderful event and we are very supportive of Laker basketball," SGA Vice President Nick Orange said, whose organization has always played a role in preparing for homecoming and will do so again this year, with a couch raffle and various other activities during that

week.

But the newest addition to the homecoming day, will provide excitement on the court during halftime of the basketball games as one lucky spectator in the crowd will have a chance to claim a cash prize of \$10,000. The idea of this contest will have the individual participant try to hit a lay-up, a free-throw shot, a three-pointer, and a half court shot, all in that order, and in a time span of 25 seconds. If this feat is successfully accomplished, then that lucky person will go home with the winnings of \$10,000, which UPS will sponsor. The only stipulation relies that the participant not be involved in any organized basketball, for they must sign a contract before entering the contest.

"I think this contest will be fun, and UPS has done a good job in being supportive of student activities, rather it's sports or culture, they have done a fine job," Director of Wellness, Fitness, and Sports Rob Jensen said.

"Hopefully, this year's homecoming bring a chance for people to see our games for the first time and know that it is a good environment and maybe then they will return for games in the future."

Upcoming Lady Lakers home games

Tuesday February 12 vs. Illinois Tech
Tip-Off: 7:00 P.M.

Saturday February 16 vs. St. Francis (HOMECOMING)
Tip-Off: 4:30 P.M.

Upcoming Lakers home games

Saturday February 16 vs. IU-South Bend (HOMECOMING)
Tip-Off: 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday February 20 vs. Barat
Tip-Off: 7:00 P.M.

Wellness Counsel sponsors blood drive for Wednesday

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

Last November, the Wellness Counsel held a blood drive, which provided great results. There, 79 productive units of blood were given with over 100 people showing-up to help give the gift of life to others physically less fortunate. The counsel is hoping for an even better showing this Wednesday, February 6 as another blood drive will be held in Alumni Hall, located on the 3rd floor of the SFLC building.

But in the wake of those who survived the September 11 attacks in New York and Washington, donations were in need, especially in the week after. Still, giving blood is essential at anytime, no matter what cost. Considering that

some people might be lying on a hospital bed waiting for any blood that's necessary to enjoy the full qualities of living.

"With what happened on September 11, there was a shortage of blood," Senior and Nursing major Sherri Davis said, who took sign-ups for the drive last Wednesday.

"We hope to set the goal of at least 78 units this time," said Davis.

Those who plan on attending the drive can show-up between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., from there a form must be completely filled-out and a quick interview takes place about basic medical details.

"I'm hoping to match November's blood total, there might not be as many first time donors, but we are at least hoping to see those who came out the last time," Wellness coordinator Martha Lowery said.

After giving the donation, snacks and drinks are provided as an appreciation of services. A couple of weeks ago, sign-up sheets were posted to set-up appointment times. While the Wellness Counsel prefers the meetings to be pre-arranged, anyone can walk-up and give blood if desired.

The Heartland Blood Centers, which currently serves

the Calumet Region in blood donations, will be on hand to conduct the drive. Right now, the centers report out of the four blood types (A, B, O, AB), there is a slight shortage of types B and O. The Wellness Counsel encourages as many people to come out to the blood drive, no matter what type any individual might have.

In all, any blood donation will mean a lot in helping someone who is suffering physically as a result of an illness.

"In November, we had a good turnout because of September 11, but with needs of those who might be family and friends, giving blood at any time would be important," Lowery said.

To call and arrange an appointment or any questions call (219) 989-2550.

"We hope to set the goal of at least 78 units this time"

Sherri Davis
Senior, Nursing

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